17 18

a section of masking material 805 is trapped between first tool 801 and third tool 841. In the embodiment of FIG. 28, a cut 847 has been formed in masking material 805. Cut 847 defines a second end 849' of a second strip 853 of masking material. In FIG. 28, it may be appreciated that cut 847 has been formed in a section of masking material 805 that is not adhered to workpiece 823. A third tail 815" of masking material 805 is shown extending beyond first tool 801. In FIG. 28, a first section 839' of second strip 853 is shown contacting workpiece 823 and a second section 859' of second strip 853 is shown extending away from workpiece 823. In some useful methods in accordance with the present invention, cut 847 is located such that a third portion of an unmasked apron will extend beyond second end 849' of second strip 853 when second section 859' of second strip 15 853 is applied to workpiece 823.

FIG. 29 is still another isometric view useful for describing methods and apparatus in accordance with the present invention. In the embodiment of FIG. 29, third tail 815 "of masking material 805 is trapped between second tool 803 20 and workpiece 823. In the embodiment of FIG. 29 a first end 825" of masking material 805 has been placed in general alignment with first end 861 of first strip 851. In FIG. 29 it may be appreciated that the first ends of the strips are located so that a first portion 827 of unmasked apron 829 of 25 workpiece 823 extends between the first ends of the strips and outer periphery 831 of workpiece 823. In FIG. 29 it may also be appreciated that the length of the strips have been selected so that a third portion 879 of unmasked apron 829 of workpiece 823 extends between the second ends of the 30 strips and outer periphery 831 of workpiece 823.

FIG. 30 is another isometric view useful for describing methods and apparatus in accordance with the present invention. In FIG. 30, it may be appreciated that a first section of masking material 805 has been applied to surface 35 819 of workpiece 823. Also, in FIG. 30, it may be appreciated that first tool 801 has been moved to a new location, and that a third tool 841 has been moved into position so that a section of masking material 805 is trapped between first tool 801 and third tool 841. In the embodiment of FIG. 30, 40 a cut 847 has been formed in masking material 805. Cut 847 defines a second end 849" of a third strip 855 of masking material. In FIG. 30, it may be appreciated that cut 847 has been formed in a section of masking material 805 that is not adhered to workpiece 823. A fourth tail 815" of masking 45 material 805 is shown extending beyond first tool 801. In FIG. 30, a first section 839" of third strip 855 is shown contacting workpiece 823 and a second section 859" of third strip 855 is shown extending away from workpiece 823. In some useful methods in accordance with the present invention, cut 847 is located such that a third portion of an unmasked apron will extend between second end 849" of third strip 855 and the outer periphery of workpiece 823 when second section 859" of third strip 855 is applied to workpiece 823.

FIG. 31 is still another isometric view useful for describing methods and apparatus in accordance with the present invention. In the embodiment of FIG. 31, fourth tail 815" of masking material 805 is trapped between second tool 803 and workpiece 823. In the embodiment of FIG. 31 a first end 60 825" of masking material 805 has been placed in general alignment with first end 861 of first strip 851. In FIG. 31 it may be appreciated that the first ends of the strips are located so that a first portion 827 of unmasked apron 829 of workpiece 823 extends between the first ends of the strips 65 and outer periphery 831 of workpiece 823. In FIG. 31 it may also be appreciated that the length of the strips has been

selected so that a third portion 879 of unmasked apron 829 of workpiece 823 extends between the second ends of the strips and outer periphery 831 of workpiece 823.

FIG. 32 is another isometric view useful for describing methods and apparatus in accordance with the present invention. In FIG. 32, it may be appreciated that a final strip 857 has been applied to surface 819 of workpiece 823. In FIG. 32, it may also be appreciated that final strip 857 is positioned so that a fourth portion 893 of unmasked apron 829 extends between a second side 877 of final strip 857 and outer periphery 831 of workpiece 823.

In the embodiment of FIG. 32, first strip 851, second strip 853, third strip 855, and final strip 857 form a protective covering 869. In FIG. 32, it may be appreciated that protective covering 869 is sized and positioned so that an unmasked apron 829 of workpiece 823 extends between an outer periphery 833 of protective covering 869 and an outer periphery 831 of workpiece 823. In some particularly advantageous implementations, the width of the unmasked apron is large enough so that the unmasked apron can receive a sash, and small enough so that the protective covering protects a viewing portion of the pane.

In FIG. 32, final strip 857 is shown overlapping third strip 855 by an overlap dimension 895. Also in the embodiment of FIG. 32, third strip 855 overlaps second strip 853 by an overlap dimension 895 and second strip 853 overlaps first strip 851 by an overlap dimension 895. In some advantageous methods in accordance with the present invention, a first strip of masking material is placed on a workpiece in a position such that a second portion of an unmasked apron of the workpiece extends between a first side of the first strip and the outer periphery of the workpiece. A pre-selected number of additional strips are applied to the workpiece in an overlapping fashion according to a pre-selected overlap dimension so that a fourth portion of the unmasked apron extends between a second side of a final additional strip and the outer periphery of the workpiece. In some cases, the workpiece comprises a window pane and the first and second portions of the unmasked apron have widths that are large enough to allow the first and second portions of the unmasked apron to mate with a window sash. In some cases, the workpiece comprises a window pane and the first and second portions of the unmasked apron have widths that are small enough that the strips protect a viewing portion of the window pane.

Several forms of invention have been shown and described, and other forms will now be apparent to those skilled in art. It will be understood that embodiments shown in drawings and described above are merely for illustrative purposes, and are not intended to limit the scope of invention defined claims which follow.

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising the steps of:

trapping a masking material between a first tool and a second tool with a tail of the masking material extending beyond the second tool;

directing a stream of gas to impinge on the tail to lay the tail across a face of the second tool;

trapping the tail between the face of the second tool and a workpiece;

- moving the first tool away from the second tool while the tail is trapped between the face of the second tool and the workpiece so that the masking material is no longer trapped between the first tool and the second tool.
- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of trapping the tail between the second tool and the workpiece comprises the step of positioning a first end of the masking material so